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One might expect to find in so large a book devoted to a subject so narrowly circumscribed a certain expansion in concession to popular taste. On the contrary, M. Pariset has found it necessary to condense his too abundant materials. Observing this, one might expect to find a certain dryness. On the contrary, the pages are full of interest and charm. Observing this, one might expect to find romance instead of history. On the contrary, the author has adhered rigidly to his facts. He combines the thoroughness of the German with the Frenchman's love of analysis, of proportion, and of clear exposition. A partial bibliography of books and documents employed embraces about five hundred titles. More than two hundred of these represent biographies of Prussian clergymen of the period under review, which M. Pariset read in order to become thoroughly acquainted with the inner life of the church.

One cannot help wishing, after all, that M. Pariset had chosen some other subject. The reign of Frederick William I was not a great period in the history of the state or of the church. The eminent abilities of M. Pariset as a historian are needed in fields of far greater importance.

FRANKLIN JOHNSON.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

CARDINAL MANNING. From the French of F. DE PRESSENSÉ.

By E. INGALL. London: William Heinemann; St. Louis, Mo.: B. Herder, 1898. Pp. 220. \$1.25.

PURCELL'S *Life of Cardinal Manning* was an authorized biography by a Catholic writer, and yet, by direct charges and still more damaging insinuations, it constituted an arraignment of the most severe sort against the great prelate. The present work, by a Protestant, de Pressensé, son of the great historian of that name, is a defense of the character and memory of the cardinal against charges of his chosen Catholic biographer. The most rigid Protestant need not desire to see Purcell's estimate of Manning prevail, except in so far as it is the truth, but it is not necessary that the defense should carry with it the abandonment of the essential ground of Protestantism. The author repeatedly speaks of the pope as the "vicar of Christ;" of Rome as "the capital of Christianity;" of Catholics as "the faithful." In the chapter on Manning's Protestant years, Catholicism is referred to as "the truth to which he afterward yielded submission." There is never a shade of disapproval in speaking of the most extravagant claims of

Romanism. The reader charitably assumes that this arises from a desire to give a perfectly colorless narrative, in which the author's own position shall not be apparent, until one finds him speaking of "the leprosy of Nonconformity," and openly condemning Anglicanism as an illogical and inconsistent middle position. The book must be considered as a thoroughly polemic work, written for the express purpose of antagonizing Purcell's position, and burning incense before the shrine of the cardinal.

WINFRED ERNEST GARRISON.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

THE STORY OF GLADSTONE'S LIFE. By JUSTIN MCCARTHY. New York: The Macmillan Co., 1897. Pp. 436. \$6.

THIS book should not be judged by the ordinary standards for estimating biography, for it is exactly what the title indicates—the story of Gladstone's life.

That the work appeared before the death of the illustrious subject has but little significance, for the parliamentary life of Mr. Gladstone had ended, and it is the marvelous influence that he held over the House of Commons which is McCarthy's theme.

The opening sentence of the first chapter contains the chief thought of the whole book, and this the writer illustrates by incident and reminiscence to the continuous delectation of the reader: "I think I may take it for granted that Mr. Gladstone is the greatest English statesman who has appeared during the reign of Queen Victoria."

Mr. Gladstone began his career as a Tory and ended as a Liberal, if not a Radical. The way in which all England conformed to the evolution of one man is shown in the many reform movements championed by Gladstone, and especially in the repeal of the so-called "taxes on education." The removal of the tax on paper would reduce the rich man's six-penny newspaper to a price within the reach of the laborer. The House of Lords obstructed the measure for one session. "But the country had full faith in Mr. Gladstone's determination, and it was quite certain that the peers would not resist him for very long." The next session saw Mr. Gladstone's scheme passed into law. The House of Lords thus said in effect: "Well, if Mr. Gladstone and the House of Commons want this iniquitous measure, of course they must have it—we must only let them ruin the country, and make no further work about it."

The story of the life of a man whose work is useful to the world